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SPEECH OF HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER

Hon'ble Prime Minister,

Hon'ble Union Home Minister,

Hon'ble Chief Ministers,

**Hon'ble Home Ministers of State
Governments, and**

**Senior Officers of the Government of India
and State Governments,**

I am happy to place on record that meticulous and proactive approach of Hon'ble Union Home Minister under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister has seen us through the year 2010 without any major incident affecting the internal security of our country. The sincerity of the Government of India and the

State Governments in tackling the challenges posed on Internal Security front is evident by our coming together for the 5th time, since December, 2007. This meeting is very timely in the backdrop of left wing extremism affecting large parts of our country and religious fundamentalist groups trying to disrupt communal harmony in our country.

I am happy to inform this august gathering that Tamil Nadu continues to be a haven of peace. Thanks to the ever vigilant and continuous monitoring by the Government and the State police, law and order is maintained well in our State. There have been no major incidents affecting communal harmony in our State. Tamil Nadu Police has successfully prevented the attempts of left wing extremist elements to start training camps in

forest areas some time back and has also arrested members of these organisations absconding for several years.

With the support of Government of India, we have strengthened our coastal security. Tamil Nadu Police and the Coast Guard have conducted simulation exercises. We have established 12 marine police stations and have 24 boats for patrolling our coast. However, the boats presently used for patrolling purposes have serious limitations. We have expressed our concerns to the Government of India in this regard. Government of India may look into these issues urgently.

I would like to draw the attention of this forum to the plight of fishermen of Tamil Nadu who continue to face harassment including physical harm at the hands of Sri Lankan Navy.

The recent shooting and killing of a Tamil fisherman on 12.1.2011 and subsequently the death of another fisherman on 22.1.2011 are highly condemnable. Sri Lankan Government should abide by the Indo - Sri Lanka joint statement on fishing arrangements on 26.10.2008 at New Delhi categorically stating that there shall be no firing on Indian fishermen. Fishermen who cross International borders unwittingly and apprehended by other neighbouring countries in the West and the East are not subjected to physical harm. Whereas, the Indian fishermen who cross the International Maritime border off Sri Lanka are repeatedly subjected to physical harm, harassment and at times get killed. The Sri Lankan Government must be asked to follow the due procedure of law as we do in the case

of Sri Lankan fishermen who cross into Indian waters.

However, I thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister for his immediate response to our request by sending our Foreign Secretary to Sri Lanka in this regard.

I would now like to address the issues in the Agenda.

- After our Government assumed office in 2006, about 24000 Police Constables and about 2000 Sub-Inspectors have been recruited in the last four and half years.
- We have created 2 new police districts, one new Commissionerate, 19 new police stations, 11 new traffic police stations. Moreover, 47 police outposts have been upgraded as police stations.

- We have allotted substantial funds to the tune of Rs.3000 crores for Tamil Nadu Police in 2010-11 Budget.
- We also constituted the Third Police Commission in 2006, obtained its report and implemented most of its recommendations for effective policing and welfare of policemen.
- A modern Police Academy is fully functional.
- We have decided to establish a Central Police Recruit School to train about 3000 police constables at a time.
- 17 Quick Reaction Teams have been made functional. 430 police personnel have been trained in anti terrorist drills during 2010. All vital installations and

important places in Tamil Nadu have been identified and detailed security plans prepared for them. We are also taking steps to make our 300 strong Commando Force more effective in dealing with any eventuality.

- We have strengthened our intelligence wing by sanction of 600 new posts.
- Organised Crime Intelligence Unit has been created and it is functional with about 500 personnel.
- Tamil Nadu Police has been taking effective steps to tackle the menace of Fake Indian Currency Notes in close coordination with the agencies of Government of India and Reserve Bank of India.

As regards the centrally funded scheme of Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS), we have submitted our report to Government of India seeking an assistance of Rs.266 crores. I request the Government of India to approve our proposal and provide necessary funds. Under this scheme, about 18 thousand police personnel have been given basic training in Computers.

As a welfare measure for policemen, Government of Tamil Nadu has been constructing about 2 thousand houses every year and in the last 5 years, we have taken up construction of 11 thousand 29 houses for Tamil Nadu Police.

Regarding Police Reforms, Tamil Nadu has already taken a number of steps such as separation of Law & Order and Crime functions

at police station level and creation of Police Establishment Board. The Police Bill has also been introduced and is now before a Select Committee of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

Based on the recommendations of the Third State Police Commission, we have classified the police stations into 3 categories viz. Light, Medium, Heavy. We have increased the authorized strength of these Police Stations and also the strength of the Metropolitan Police Stations. In view of the higher norms, the State Police will get an additional strength of about 30 thousand policemen over and above the present strength of about one lakh.

Tamil Nadu has been implementing the scheme of modernisation of police force effectively. The allocation for this scheme may

be increased in the coming Union Budget. I request the Government of India to create a separate centrally funded scheme for Mega City Policing and announce this in the forthcoming Union Budget.

Moreover, the coastal waters of South needs to be paid some attention through resources and personnel as the land borders in North, West and East are being attended to. The threat to security of the nation from coast has manifested earlier with ominous implications. It is requested that our demand for more vessels, police stations and manpower and better air surveillance capabilities may be considered favourably.

The threat to security of the nation through cyber space must receive equal attention from the Governments. Day in and

day out, the cyber space is being used by criminals to cheat gullible and innocent citizens causing loss of money and harassment. A comprehensive strategy on behalf of Government of India on this is called for.

I would like to assure the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Union Home Minister that Tamil Nadu is alive to the internal security situation and will continue to monitor the situation meticulously. I would like to conclude my speech affirming our commitment to protect the unity and integrity of our country and to ensure communal harmony and social justice.

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